

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USNATO 03658 101805Z
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-01
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05
SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /078 W
-----072430 101807Z /46

O 101756Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0636
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T USNATO 03658

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: FRG POSITION ON WESTERN INITIATIVE

REF: BONN 6279 DTG 071304Z APR 78

-

1. REFLECTING CONCERN REPORTED REFTEL, FRG DCM (B0SS) CALLED DCM APRIL 10 TO NOTE IN IMPLIED TERMS BONN'S CONCERN THAT TABLING THE NEW WESTERN MBFR INITIATIVE AT THIS JUNCTURE MIGHT -- IN THE LIGHT OF THE US ERW DECISION -- BE INTERPRETED BY THE EAST AS A SIGN OF WESTERN WEAKNESS. HE UNDERLINED THAT BONN WAS NOT BACKING AWAY FROM ITS COMMITMENT TO TABLE THE INITIATIVE BUT WAS RATHER SEEKING US VIEWS ON AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO ANTICIPATED MEDIA QUESTIONS LINKING THE DECISION TO DELAY ERW PRODUCTION WITH THE TABLING OF THE NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 USNATO 03658 101805Z

2. DCM SUGGESTED THAT TABLING THE MBFR INITIATIVE HAD ITS OWN LOGIC. IT WAS NOW AN APPROPRIATE MOVE TO PRESERVE NEGOTIATING MOMENTUM AND ALLIES SHOULD NOT BE DEFENSIVE ABOUT DEMONSTRATING AN ARMS CONTROL INITIATIVE BEFORE THE SSOD. DCM SPEAKING PERSONALLY ALSO NOTED THAT MBFR IS

ONE POTENTIAL AREA, BUT NOT THE ONLY AREA, WHERE THE SOVIETS MIGHT DISPLAY RECIPROCAL ACTION IN RESPONSE TO THE US ERW DECISION. THUS WHILE NOT LINKING ERW TO MBFR, WEST COULD MOVE AWAY FROM THE DEFENSIVE BY NOTING THAT SOVIETS ACTIONS IN MBFR WERE ONE AREA IN WHICH TO JUDGE WHETHER SOVIETS WERE RESTRAINING THEIR ARMS PRODUCTION PROGRAMS AND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS.

3. COMMENT AND ACITON REQUESTED: FRG QUERY MAY REFLECT CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBLE DOMESTIC CRITICISM ABOUT THE WEST MOVING AGAIN TO ACCOMMODATE A SOVIET POSITION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE FOR RESPONSE TO THE FRG HERE, AND BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO POSSIBLE QUESTIONS LINKING THE MBFR INITIATIVE AND ERW DECISION.
END COMMENT. BENNETT

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR WEAPONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO03658
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780154-0177
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780472/aaaacjla.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 395620b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BONN 6279
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3015741
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: FRG POSITION ON WESTERN INITIATIVE
TAGS: PARM, GE, NATO, MBFR
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/395620b3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014